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Walla Walla District

News Release

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Contact: Public Affairs Office

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McNary Dam to host free fishing derby for kids

UMATILLA, Ore. – Mark your calendars and start looking for that fishing rod and tackle box you stowed away for the winter! Young anglers are invited to a free fishing derby at McNary Lock and Dam on Saturday, May 10, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The fourth-annual derby is co-sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Oregon State Fish and Wildlife Department. The event will take place at the fountain pond near the Pacific Salmon Visitor Center and in the nature area just downstream of the dam on the Oregon side of the Columbia River near Umatilla. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. – the event is free.

The fishing derby is for children ages 12 and younger who like to fish or who are learning to fish. More than 1,000 rainbow trout, provided by Oregon Fish and Wildlife, will be stocked in the pond and nature area for the derby. First, second and third place prizes will be awarded for the biggest fish caught by children in each of the following age groups: six and younger, seven to nine, and 10 to 12. Anglers must be present at award ceremony to receive a prize.

To get there, travel 1 mile east of Umatilla, Ore., on Highway 730, turn north onto McNary Dam Road; located at Columbia River Mile 292, on the south riverbank.

For more information about this event, call the McNary Natural Resources Office at (541) 922-2268.

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